MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM no
Property Name: Staley-Summers House Property Inventory Number: F-2-110
Address: U.S. 340 U.S. Route 340, Jefferson Pike Historic district: yes X no
City: Petersville Zip Code: 21716 County: Frederick
USGS Quadrangle(s): Point of Rocks
Property Owner: Maryland State Highway Administration Tax Account ID Number: N/A
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 32 Tax Map Number: 83
Project: Staley-Summers Architectural Inventory Agency: Maryland State Highway Administration
Agency Prepared By: A.D. Marble & Company
Preparer's Name: Stephanie Foell Date Prepared: 12/28/2004
Documentation is presented in: Companion MIHP form of the Staley-Summers Architectural Inventory
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: Eligibility recommended X Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property:
Inventory Number: yes Listed: yes
ite visit by MHT Staff yes X no Name: Date:
Description of Property and Lord Footiers (Plane at all more and all at a)
Description of Property and Justification: (Please attach map and photo)
The Staley-Summers House property contains remnants of a former farmstead. All of the agricultural buildings have collapsed and only the residence associated with the property remain. The site is comprised of a two-story log house, the stone and cinder-block foundation of a bank barn, the collapsed ruins of a wood-frame structure (possible springhouse or icehouse—see Noble 1984(2):85), and the remnants of landscape features associated with the property. The dwelling dates to circa 1820 and is a typical example of log construction that is commonly found in Frederick County. The landscape retains few historic components. This property was evaluated in the context of various themes, including local, historic land-use patterns and architectural features. Please see companion MIHP form for the architectural description. The Staley-Summers House property consists of a heavily wooded, land-locked, 119-acre parcel of land. The Staley-Summers House property is located in Petersville, at the base of the foothills of the Catoctin Mountain range in Middletown Valley, which is geographically situated in western Frederick County between South Mountain to the northwest and Catoctin Mountain to the southeast. The Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) currently owns the parcel of land that contains the residence and collapsed agricultural buildings.
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NR Eligible: yes

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The former farmstead on the Staley-Summer's House property was a common component of the rural, agrarian settlement pattern in rederick County during the early nineteenth century. The property is also in close proximity to historically vibrant commercial and social centers, such as Brunswick, Jefferson, Middletown, and Petersville. Likewise, it was established in close proximity to major water sources and transportation routes. Frederick County property and zoning maps show that Jefferson National Pike (Interstate Route 340) and Old Jefferson Turnpike (also know as the Old Ridge Road to Harpers Ferry and MD 180) define the northern boundary of the land parcel. Industrial enterprises, such as furnaces and various mills, were nearby along Catoctin Creek and the Potomac River. Catoctin Creek (also known as Middle Creek), is a tributary of the Potomac River to the south, and forms the eastern and southern boundaries of the Staley-Summers House property parcel. Catoctin Creek is also the boundary marker between the town of Jefferson (historically called New Town and Traptown) to the east and Petersville to the west. An unnamed, second-order stream of Catoctin Creek spans the southwest portion of the Staley-Summers House property parcel.

Significance Evaluation

The Staley Summers House is considered not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The property was researched intensively and compared to other similar buildings in Frederick County. The Staley-Summers dwelling dates to circa 1820 and is a typical example of log construction that is commonly found in Frederick County. Experts on local history and architecture who are familiar with this type of log architecture were also consulted as part of the evaluation.

The property is considered not eligible under National Register Criterion A. Although the property was associated with agricultural trends in the Frederick County area, the collapse of the agricultural buildings—including the bank barn and springhouse—greatly diminish the property's ability to convey its agricultural associations.

The Staley-Summers House Property is also considered not eligible under Criterion B. Despite exhaustive research, the property is not associated with the lives of significant persons in the past. After deed and census research was completed, intensive research was conducted to determine if any owners or residents were locally significant. However, no one associated with the property was significant for roles in local affairs or for associations with progressive agricultural techniques.

The Staley-Summers House is considered not eligible under National Register Criterion C. Although it is an example of a log house, it is not an exceptionally old example of log architecture in Frederick County. It is also not a rare or unique example of a domestic log building. Janet Davis, Frederick County Historic Preservation Planner, stated that numerous other similar buildings are located in the vicinity. Furthermore, many of these similar buildings are in better condition than the Staley-Summer House and retain their historic agricultural outbuildings. The collapse of the east wing of the building and the two entry porches greatly compromises the potential for eligibility under Criterion C as an example of a building indicative of a type, period, or method of construction.

As part of a previous archeological study completed in 1993, the Staley-Summers House property was evaluated for archeological sensitivity. However, the property was not evaluated for eligibility under National Register Criterion D. The study concluded that the property may be significant for its potential to yield information important to the understanding of history and/or prehistory. However, the study recommended further archeological investigations to determine National Register eligibility. No new archeological investigations were conducted as part of the present study. Therefore, at this time, the property is considered not eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion D.

One of the primary reasons that the Staley-Summers House property is considered not eligible is the lack of integrity of the property. The property retains its integrity of location, but does not retain its integrity of materials, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association. The lack of integrity is due in large part to the physical changes in the property itself. The land is heavily

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Eligibility re	ecommen	ded	_	Eli	gibility not recommen	ded						
Criteria:	A	В	C	D	Considerations:	A	В	C	D	E	F	G
MHT Comn	ients:											
	Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services						Date					
(; 	Revie	ewer, Na	tional R	egister	Program	0		Date				

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Staley-Summers House Property

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overgrown with new-growth trees and there is no cleared land that would have been associated with agricultural practices such as rop cultivation, pasture land, or orchards. The cultural landscape design and workmanship associated with agriculture has also open obliterated due in large part to the collapse of associated outbuildings. Similarly, the integrity of materials, feeling, and association of the property has been lost in large part because of the overgrown nature of the site, and because of collapse of the agricultural buildings.

Please see companion MIHP form for complete architectural description and bibliography.

Eligibility r	ecommen	ded		Elig	gibility not recommend	led						
Criteria:		_В -	C _	D	Considerations:	A	B	c .	_D .	E	F	G
_	Reviewe	er, Offic	e of Pres	servatio	on Services			Date				

Staley-Summers House Property

F-2-110

U.S. Route 340, Petersville, Frederick County

Constructed circa 1820

Public Access

The Staley-Summers House property consists of a heavily wooded, landlocked, 119-acre parcel of land with the remnants of a former farmstead including a log residence and two collapsed agricultural buildings. The Staley-Summers House property is located in Petersville, at the base of the foothills of the Catoctin Mountain range in Middletown Valley. The Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) currently owns the parcel of land that contains the residence and collapsed agricultural buildings. The dwelling dates to circa 1820 and is a typical example of log construction that is commonly found in Frederick County. The house is two stories high and three bays wide by two rooms deep. The log house is a symmetrical side-gable form. The log construction features v-notched corners and stone nogging.

The Staley Summers House does not illustrate its eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places due to a lack of integrity of materials, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association. Due to the diminished condition of the agricultural buildings and overgrown landscape, the property does not convey its association with the agricultural history of Frederick County. Likewise, even though the log construction is a distinctive method of construction, there are numerous intact examples in Frederick County. Research did not indicate that the property was associated with the lives of significant persons. What makes the property unique is that is has been essentially unknown and undocumented due to the landlocked state of the property.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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historic	Slagle and Sulc	er							
other									
2. Location									
street and number	U.S. Route 340							_ not for	publication
city, town	Petersville, Free	derick						X vicinity	1
county	Frederick								
3. Owner of	Property	(give nam	es and mailing	g addresses	of all ow	ners)			
name	Maryland State	Highway Adr	ninistration, M	laryland Dep	artment	t of Tra	nsportation		
street and number	707 North Calv	ert Street				t	elephone	410-545	-0300
city, town	Baltimore			state M	ID	Z	ip code	21202	
4. Location	of Legal D	escripti	on						
courthouse, registr		n 68 N H H		e.	1	iber 6	49 folio 572	2	
city, town	Frederick, Peter		tax map 83	tax par				D number	N/A
5. Primary L	ocation of	Addition	nal Data	a					
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-	_			
1.	Des	crı	pti	on

Condition

excellent	X deteriorated
good	X_ ruins
fair	altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Staley-Summers House property consists of a heavily wooded, land-locked, 119-acre parcel of land with a log residence and two collapsed agricultural buildings. The Staley-Summers House property is located in Petersville, at the base of the foothills of the Catoctin Mountain range in Middletown Valley, which is geographically situated in western Frederick County between South Mountain to the northwest and Catoctin Mountain to the southeast. The Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) currently owns the parcel of land that contains the residence and collapsed agricultural buildings. The Staley-Summers log house was constructed in the first half of the nineteenth century. It is two stories high and three bays wide by two rooms deep. The log house is a symmetrical side-gable form. The log construction features v-notched corners and stone nogging.

The Staley-Summers nomenclature refers to the most recent names on the transfer of deeds to the SHA in the 1960s (Frederick County Land Records). Therefore, this name is not a historical association or reference, because the Slagle and Sulcer families held ownership to the land in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries (ibid). However, the property will hereafter be referred to as the Staley-Summers House property, in accordance with the property reference given and cataloged by SHA.

The Staley-Summers site contains remnants of a former farmstead. All of the agricultural buildings have collapsed and only the residence associated with the property remain. The site is comprised of a two-story log house, the stone and cinder-block foundation of a bank barn, the collapsed ruins of a wood-frame structure (possible springhouse or icehouse—see Noble 1984(2):85), and the remnants of landscape features associated with the property. The dwelling dates to circa 1820 and is a typical example of log construction that is commonly found in Frederick County. The landscape retains few historic components.

Prior Photographic Documentation

A collection of photographs of the Staley-Summers House property that dates to the 1960s were consulted as part of the research for the present project. The photographs date to the time when SHA acquired the property. Photocopies of the original photographs were referenced for the building descriptions; however, the original photographs are on file at SHA, Office of Real Estate. The photographs reveal the former condition of the house and agricultural outbuildings, and depict the changes that have occurred in the past 40 years. Most notably, they demonstrate the lack of integrity of the property due in large part to the collapse of the agricultural buildings and the collapse of two porches and a wing of the residence.

Log Residence

The Staley-Summers log house was constructed in the first half of the nineteenth century. It is two stories high and three bays wide by two rooms deep. The log house is a symmetrical side-gable form. The log construction features v-notched corners and stone nogging. Supporting the massive weight of the Staley-Summers log house are stone foundation footers, which are clearly visible below the log framing. It is situated on an east-west axis and the front façade faces south, overlooking the scenic vista of the hilly topography around Catoctin Creek and its tributary. A steep incline in the topography is immediately adjacent to the north of the log house and on the south side of Catoctin Creek. There is one extant chimney base. Currently, the window openings are partially patched over with wood planks and fragments of the tin roof material, and the window openings on the exterior and interior are simple, wide, wood surrounds. Ms. Janet Davis, Frederick County Historic Preservation Planner, indicated that the wood trim around the windows and doors is consistent with a construction date ranging between the first- to second-quarter of the nineteenth century. The interior of the log house on both of the stories is evenly divided into rooms on either side of the main entrance. The timber throughout the house is either oak or pine, as these were standard materials in log house construction (Noble 1984:110). Electrical wiring is evident throughout the house.

The symmetrical front façade is comprised of four window openings, two on each story, and a central entrance door on the first floor. The windows on the second story are the same width as those on the first story, but not as tall as those on the first story. The remnants of a frame-and-tin, shed-roof porch are visible on the front façade.

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The east elevation was previously attached to an addition that has collapsed. The exterior of the east elevation reveals that the wood slats of the second story wall are horizontally oriented, opposite of those on first story. Furthermore, a juncture of mortise-and-tenon logs is located between the first and second stories, also evidence of a later, second-story addition to the log house. There are three door openings on this elevation. A side-entrance door is centered on the bottom half of the east elevation. The second story has two door openings below the gable roof line. These door openings were likely former windows identical to those on the west elevation before being modified.

The exterior of the west elevation has the remains of a stone chimney base. The west elevation also features a side entrance. The wood door is intact, but in poor condition and has been patched with tin roof material. The remains of a stone pathway lead up to a wood staircase below the west entrance door. A pair of small, identical windows is situated between the chimney on the second story.

The south (rear) elevation is not a mirror image of the front façade. A central entrance door is on the first story, but only one window opening is found on the west side of the door on the south elevation. The second story features only one window on the east side.

On the interior of the log residence, floorboards on the second story are largely intact; however, the floorboards on the first floor have several pockets of rotted wood, which compromise the structural integrity. The walls on the interior of the first floor are made of wood slats covered in cracked, painted, horse-hair plaster. Various colors of paint are discernable throughout the interior; the east room contains pink paint over the walls and trim, while the west room contains traces of white and blue paint on the walls, with wood trim painted in blue, over which is yellow paint. Tongue-in-groove ceilings are featured on the first floor.

To the west of the main entrance is a room which contains the only fireplace in the house, and there are remnants of wide, chair-rail molding on the walls in this room. The fireplace hearth is constructed of field stone. The stone hearth is very similar in appearance to the stone foundation of the collapsed wing addition on the east elevation of the log house. The hearth is accented with a flat, dressed, stone slab that appears to have been the location of the mantelpiece and two lintel courses of red, brick headers and footers that span the width of the fireplace surround. An area of exposed wood slats is directly above the fireplace, revealing the same vertical alignment as seen on the exterior of the east elevation. The interior of the opposite room, on the east side, consists of the same wide, chair-rail molding as in the west room, but also contains a closet space below the staircase, which leads to the second floor. In both rooms, the interior dividing walls between the rooms are comprised of wide wainscoting. This same construction is featured on the closet wall below the staircase and on the second-story, interior walls.

A winding staircase leads to the second-story room on the east side. This room was a corridor to the second story of the adjoining wood-frame addition, which is now in ruins. The walls and ceiling of the two, small bedrooms on the west side of the second story are tongue-in-groove, wide, wood planks, with chips of blue and white paint attached to the surface. These bedrooms feature a chamfered ceiling on the north and south walls, indicating that perhaps the second story was a later addition. The rafter beams of the gable roof are exposed on the second story.

The side-gable roof is clad in corrugated tin, and the brick chimney that once punctuated the west elevation is no longer extant.

The 1960 photographs of the log house portray that a later, two-story, wood-frame, clapboard wing was added to the east elevation. This addition has since collapsed and only the stone foundation remains extant. According to the photographs, the wood-frame addition was two bays wide by two rooms deep. Like the log house, the symmetrical orientation of the addition is also on an east-west axis and is a side-gable configuration. A full-width, wood-frame, shed-roof porch was featured on the east elevation. Access to this wing addition was from the east elevation, as the only entrance door visible in the photographs is centered below the porch roof on the east elevation. Fenestration on this addition is not clearly discernable from the quality of the photocopy of the original photographs; however, a double-hung window arrangement, with simple, wood trim surrounds is visible. The collection of photographs also verifies

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that a porch over the centrally placed entrance door was on the front façade, approached by a flight of wood-frame steps. The photographs reveal that there was a brick chimney stack built upon the stone base on the west elevation. In addition, they depict an enclosed, frame-and-tin, shed-roof porch above the door on the west elevation, which is no longer extant.

Bank Barn

The field-stone and cinder-block foundation is all that remains of the bank barn, which is located to the southwest of the log house. It appears that the cinder blocks were used to enclose the original overhanging forebay (photos on file at SHA, file No. 45824). A poured-concrete trough is located on the ground in the center of the barn. It was once used to keep the interior of the barn free of livestock excrement, as it functioned as a waste receptacle. The trough was easy to maintain by simply hosing the waste matter out the trough. Currently, the foundation is collapsed in sections and heavily overgrown with trees, the superstructure is gone; therefore, the barn no longer conveys its original association with the farmstead.

Photographs (1960) of the bank barn reveal the superstructure was constructed of wood, with a centrally-placed wagon entrance on the south elevation. They also reveal that the cinder-block addition spanned the full width of the bottom portion on the south elevation.

Springhouse

An additional collapsed agricultural outbuilding is present on the site. The wood-frame building had a stone foundation and was topped with a metal roof. The footprint of the possible springhouse (or icehouse) on the Staley-Summers parcel is symmetrical, with the gable ends oriented along a north-south axis. The visibility within the interior is poor, due to the collapsed superstructure covering the majority of the interior. Presently, the remains of a corrugated tin roof cover the wood rafters of the west side of the collapsed outbuilding. This ancillary outbuilding no longer conveys its original appearance and function on the farmstead.

The Staley-Summers springhouse is located about 30 feet to the east of an unnamed tributary of the Catoctin Creek. The collapsed superstructure is constructed of red-painted timber, and the foundation shaft is lined with field stones. A poured concrete enclosure is situated about six feet to the west of the probable springhouse entrance; poured concrete also covers the exterior of the stone foundation. The small enclosure has a narrow opening in the west wall, which is close to the stream below the hill slope. Most likely, repeated flooding in the area has silted over the original springhouse water channel, as a slight, narrow depression in the earth is visible from the west wall of the springhouse leading down to the stream.

Landscape

The landscape of the Staley-Summers House property is entirely overgrown and retains few features of the former agricultural and cultural landscape. A well identified in a 1993 survey (see Payne) could not be located during the most recent architectural survey. The trace of a nineteenth-century road runs parallel to Catoctin Creek, located at the southern boundary of the property. A worn path, recently cut in by local hunters, is found along the southern portion of the property, but much closer to the farmstead complex. This path winds around and approaches the log house on the western perimeter. The farmstead complex is largely overgrown in brambles and stands of young deciduous trees. A large, mature, deciduous tree is located to the east of the house. There are no remnants of ornamental plantings within the farmstead complex. Osage-orange fruit was found within the Staley-Summers House property parcel during the architectural survey. While this was commonly used for hedgerows, no discernable patterns remain. Small sections of woven-wire fencing are located near the house and outbuildings. South of the log house, a woven-wire fence gate and fence are still extant, as well as a small remnant of wire fence found in a grove of trees near the stream confluence.

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No discernable remnants of agricultural land use remain. No field patterns, pastures, orchards, gardens, or other typical agricultural land-use patterns remain. The property is heavily wooded and contains primarily new-growth deciduous trees and invasive ground cover.

o. Signific	ance			Inventory No. F-2-110
Period	Areas of Significance	Check and j	ustify below	
1600-1699 1700-1799 1800-1899 1900-1999 2000-	agriculture archeology architecture art commerce communications community planning conservation	economics education engineering entertainment/ recreation ethnic heritage exploration/ settlement	health/medicine industry invention landscape archite law literature maritime history military	performing arts philosophy politics/government ecture religion science social history transportation other:
Specific dates	Unknown		Architect/Builder	Unknown
Construction da	ates circa 1800-1850		Ð	
Evaluation for:				
X	National Register		Maryland Register	not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Please also see companion DOE form.

0' 'C'

The Staley-Summers House Property is not a significant example of an agricultural site due to its loss of character-defining features. The agricultural outbuildings have collapsed and no longer convey the agricultural purpose and function of the site. The landscape also retains few historic features and is largely overgrown. The property is not associated with events that shaped the patterns of history, or is associated with significant persons. Therefore, it is not eligible under Criteria A or B, respectively. It is also not eligible under Criterion C as an example of log architecture. Numerous other examples with higher degrees of integrity exist in Frederick County.

Historical Narrative

The following thematic discussion relates the Staley-Summers House property in the context of historic settlement patterns and localized land-use trends within the Middletown Valley of Frederick County. Specifically, themes are arranged by settlement, agriculture, commerce and industry, transportation, historical events, and architecture.

Settlement

The fertile, mountainous area of the Middletown Valley was attractive to the Swiss settlers, who settled along the west sides of the Catoctin Mountain. German settlers came into the area from Pennsylvania. English settlers settled in the village of Petersville. In the winter of 1710-1711, Jerusalem in Jackson District in Frederick County was the first settlement in the Middletown Valley, and Petersville District was settled soon thereafter (Wolfe 1914:6). Settlers lived fairly peaceably amongst the local Iroquois Indian tribes, including the Susquehannock. The early settlers and Indians traded goods with one another, and the trading post was the lifeline for the settlers. The local Indians referred to the Potomac River as the "trading place" (Margrabe 1990:11-12). However, after the arrival of the settlers, Middletown became the primary trading place for the entire Middletown Valley region (Wolfe 1914:9). As the European settlers acquired a stronghold on the valley, they ultimately pushed the native Indian population westward.

Deed records for the Staley-Summers House property extend back to 1829. The land was conveyed by James Weakley to Henry Slagle by deed on August 20, 1829 for 146 acres, being part of a tract of land called Depford and part of a tract called Fieldera (or Fielderea) (Frederick County Deeds, B.G.F. 6/619-620). "Present farm units are parts of what had once been vast tracts owned by a handful of individuals in the eighteenth century. Two such tracts in the Jefferson area were named Well's Invention and Fieldera (Jefferson Bicentennial Book Committee 1999: 159)." Fieldera was originally a large land parcel owned by Fielder Gantt in 1763. In 1765, he built Fieldera Furnace on the Harpers Ferry Road in Jefferson to produce and ship pig iron to England. However, the iron ore proved to be low grade and the furnace operation was abandoned (ibid). Following a series of lawsuits, Gantt subdivided his land into smaller parcels to offer for sale. A tract called Fieldera, south and east of Jefferson, was sold to Christian Easterday on August 7, 1765. Likewise, Thomas Thrasher purchased a 44-acre parcel of land on the west side of Lander Road which had been part of

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Fieldera, but resurveyed the land and named it "Enough and to Spare" (ibid:165). In 1798, Jesse Matthews owned a tract of land on the west side of the Catoctin Creek called Fieldera, on which he built a grist mill. Francis J. Steiner bought this mill in 1857, and later called it the Eagle Mill (ibid:167; see 1858 Bond and 1873 Titus maps). The Steiners operated the mill until it burned down in 1934 (ibid:168).

The neighboring towns' history also provides insight into development patterns and points of historical interest. The Middletown Election District was divided on March 22, 1831, and Petersville District No. 12 was established. Petersville District No. 12 is comprised of Petersville, Brunswick (formerly Barry P.O. and then Berlin), and Knoxville (ibid:12). The Merryland Tract was located in the heart of Petersville District (see 1808 Varle map). This tract originally contained 5,000 acres and was increased to 6,300 acres. It was granted by Governor Benedict Leonard Calvert to Captain John Covill in 1731, the land still being part of Prince Georges County until 1748 when it was included in Frederick County (Lebherz et. al 2002:29: Petersville Ms. on file at Frederick Historical Society). Petersville was settled primarily by English-speaking people from Maryland's Eastern Shore, Virginia, and Great Britain (ibid).

The Petersville District is the birthplace of two of Maryland's governors: Hon. Thomas Sim Lee and Hon. Francis Thomas. Governor Francis Thomas was elected in 1841 and is noted for signing a decree at the close of the Civil War that freed 60,000 slaves. Union Generals, including Custer and Kilpatrick, used Governor Francis Thomas' home as their headquarters during the Civil War. His homestead was located approximately one mile west of the Staley-Summers House property.

The village of Petersville is situated along the old Ridge Road (Route 180) from Frederick to Harpers Ferry, about 12 miles west of Frederick (Williams and McKinsey 1910:328-329). Petersville was a favorite summer retreat for the residents within Petersville District. The town had a post office by 1813 (Hamill 1984:192). Churches of varying religious denominations are represented in Petersville: Protestant Episcopal, Catholic, Lutheran, and Reformed (Wolfe 1914:13). Initially, Brunswick was known as Barry Post Office in 1728, then as Berlin in 1787 (Margrabe 1990:12; Wolfe 1914:12). The town of Brunswick was incorporated in 1892 and is situated just two miles south of Petersville, along the Potomac River, the C&O Canal, and the B&O Railroad line (Wolfe 1914:13). Knoxville, two miles southwest of Petersville and one mile west of Brunswick, is also situated along the B&O Railroad line and the C&O Canal. Harpers Ferry Gap and the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers are visible to the west from Knoxville. A female academy was established in Knoxville from 1864 to 1879 by the Reverend George Lewis Staley, D. D., of the German Reformed Church (Wolfe 1914:13). Knoxville is noted as the last place in the valley that sold liquor, until the prohibition law of 1914 banned the sale of intoxicating liquors in the area (ibid).

Notably, George Washington owned a tract of land in the Middletown Valley that adjoined Catoctin Creek (Wolfe 1914:6).

The Brunswick Region of the lower Middletown Valley contains 88 historic structures and districts, including seven which are listed in the National Register of Historic Places and many others that are eligible for inclusion in the National Register (Brunswick Region Plan 1998:68). The Jefferson District contains farmsteads and buildings constructed of log (Jefferson Bicentennial Book Committee 1999). In close proximity to the Staley-Summers House property are three National Register sites and four other historically significant sites. The following National Register-listed sites are located north of MD 180 and west of Jefferson: The George Willard House (F-2-051) on Old Middletown Road, Lewis Mill (F-2-001) on Poffenberger Road, and the Poffenberger Road Bridge (F-2-005) (ibid:68). On the east side of the Catoctin Creek are two historically significant farmsteads: the George Whipp Farmstead on Horine Road and the Horine-Easterday Farmstead; and, to the southwest of MD 180 is the historic MD 464/Catoctin Creek Bridge and Benjamin Rice Mill on Point of Rocks Road (ibid). Additionally, South Mountain Battlefield, a significant Civil War battlefield located in Burkittsville, is less than ten miles northwest of the Staley-Summers House property parcel (ibid:71).

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Agriculture

The land of Middletown Valley was and still is conducive to agriculture, being adequately watered by Catoctin Creek and its tributaries. The abundance of game and fertile land in the area was attractive to Native American Indians, who dwelled in the region long before the arrival of the European settlers. Farming was the primary occupation of the German settlers who arrived in the area in the 1720s. They cultivated corn and wheat in the fertile soil of the Middletown Valley and kept small herds of cows. The cows of these early settlers are likely the origins of the local dairy industry (Wolfe 1914:5; Rigaux 2003, Frederick News Post). Overall, soil in Frederick County was good for growing oats, barley, wheat, and hay (ibid). In 1798, clover was first sown in fields to the east of Catoctin Creek, in the municipality of Jefferson (Wolfe 1914:13). In Jefferson, the Summers family business was an important component in the agricultural function of the valley region. In 1907, the Summers family established H.C. Summers, Inc., a granary and farmer's supply warehouse in Jefferson. The business also became a dealer for Purina Mills in the 1920s (Jefferson Bicentennial Book Committee 1999:63-64). The following Summers family members owned 77 ¼ acres of the Staley-Summers House property parcel from 1936 to 1961: S. Cleo Summers, Harry C. Summers, Harry W. Summers, and William E. Summers (Frederick County Deeds, 649/572; 404/359). Farming was listed as the primary occupation on the census records of the former occupants of the Staley-Summers house property (Frederick County Census Records).

In 1914, the land in the Middletown Valley was considered one of the most productive agricultural locales in the country (Wolfe 1914:5). In the years following 1917, crop rotation and the cultivation of alfalfa along with oats were widely practiced by farmers in Frederick County for consumption by their dairy cattle. Likewise, sweet clover was heavily used as a crop for pasture and hay (Bryant 1976, Frederick News Post). The leading cash crop was corn. The stock of dairy cows in Frederick County steadily increased during the twentieth century, and reached an annual production of 13,000 pounds of milk and 500 pounds of butterfat per cow in 1976 (Bryant 1976, Frederick News Post).

Agriculture is still the primary land use in the lower Middletown Valley. In Jefferson, many farms operate as dairies and the leading crops are various types of corn, wheat, soybeans, clover, timothy, hay grains, grass silage, apples, and peaches (Jefferson Bicentennial Book Committee 1999: 159).

Commerce and Industry

Although agrarian life dominated the lower Middletown Valley, the area also contained grist, fulling, linseed oil, merchant, plaster, powder, saw, and woolen mills, powered by Catoctin Creek and its tributaries (Brunswick Region Plan 1998; Jefferson Bicentennial Book Committee: 168). Many woolen mills were established along Factory Branch, east of Horine Road (Brunswick Region Plan 1998). Early historic maps of Frederick County indicate that taverns, saw, merchant, grist, cotton mills, and furnaces were established along the banks of Catoctin Creek and the Potomac River (see 1873 Titus and 1808 & 1809 Varle maps). Traditionally, mills were social gathering places. A few notable mills that operated in the valley include Lewis Mill, Horine Mill, and Steiner Mill (north of the Staley-Summers House property), and Young Mill on Broad Run. As technology advanced, the form of power used to operate the mills changed from water to steam in the early twentieth century.

Brunswick became the industrial center in the lower Middletown Valley due to its proximity to the canal and railroad (Brunswick Region Plan 1998:47). Jordan Crampton and Co., who operated merchant mills in Brunswick, was one of the first business enterprises established in the town (Wolfe 1914:12). Prior to 1890, occupations in and around Brunswick consisted of farming, canal work, retail sales, feed and saw mill work, railroad work, and education (Margrabe 1990:10). The advent of the railroad propelled the dairy industry, which began to peak during the Civil War. Local farmers sent off cattle and dairy products to Baltimore via the B&O Railroad (Rigaux 2003, Frederick News Post).

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In the late nineteenth century, Brunswick was the predominant residential and commercial center in southern Frederick County due to its thriving industrial and transportation economic base (Brunswick Region Plan 1998:47).

Transportation

The Middletown Valley in the southern portion of Frederick County was influenced by a number of different forms of transportation, including trails, roads, ferries, bridges, the C&O Canal, and the B&O Railroad.

Trails and Roads

A network of Indian trails served as roadways for the early settlers. The pioneers of the old Monocacy Village settlement (present-day Frederick City) in the early eighteenth century established a network of roads from Indian trails to points west all throughout Frederick County (Tracey and Dern 1987:50-51). In 1836, the Indian trails were taken over by Frederick County (Wolfe 1914:7). Route 17, formerly known as the Highland Indian Trail, ran north-south along the Potomac River in Brunswick (Margrabe 1990:12). This trail was also the path that buffalo from the highlands of Pennsylvania used to migrate to land along the Potomac River in present-day Brunswick (ibid:14). Initiated in the 1920s, the Appalachian Trail extends 2,159 miles from Georgia to Maine, and over 12 miles of this nationally designated (1968) pedestrian trail is located in the lower Middletown Valley (Brunswick Region Plan 1998:69).

A major east-west road, Crampton Gap Road to Israel Friend's Mill crossed over Catoctin Creek and terminated at the Monocacy River to the east; Old Jefferson Turnpike (Route 180) parallels this former alignment (Dern 1987:50-51; see 1808 Varle Map). Route 180 was extended seven and one-half miles from Frederick to Centerville in the early twentieth century, with milestones and a tollgate established along the corridor (Jefferson Bicentennial Book Committee 1999:46).

In 1961, the State of Maryland, State Roads Commission, purchased plats of land north and south of Route 180 to construct an interstate highway, U.S. Route 340, from Frederick to Charlestown, West Virginia. Construction of Route 340 commenced in April 1965 and was completed in the fall of 1966 (ibid:48). Presently, U.S. Route 340 is a heavily traveled two-lane highway. The property parcel on which the Staley-Summers House property is located was purchased by the State of Maryland in 1961 from its previous owners: S. Cleo Summers, Harry C. Summers, Harry W. Summers, and William E. Summers, who purchased 77 ¼ acres of the parcel in 1936 from John H. and Fannie L. Sulcer (Frederick County Deeds, 649/572; 404/359). This parcel of land was originally part of a larger 146-acre parcel belonging to James Weakley, who conveyed it to Henry Slagle on August 20, 1829, being part of a tract of land called Depford and part of a tract called Fieldera (Frederick County Deeds, B.G.F. 6/619-620). The land was in possession of the Slagles from 1861 to 1891, before being sold to the Sulcers (W.I.P. 6/325-326; W.I.P. 11/725).

Ferries and Bridges

The Potomac River divides Brunswick in Frederick County, Maryland, from Lovettsville, in Loudoun County, Virginia. Prior to the construction of a mile-long bridge, a ferry service operated between Brunswick and the Virginia side of the Potomac River (Wolfe 1914:12). In 1741, John Hawkins, Sr., was operating this ferry service, which early German settlers from Pennsylvania used to cross into Virginia to establish their settlements in Lovettsville and Orange County, Virginia. In 1750, this portion of Brunswick was colloquially called the German or Potomac Crossing (Margrabe 1990:12).

Jacob Waltman, Jr., began operating a "heavy" ferry in April of 1822 across the Potomac River, between Brunswick and Loudoun County, Virginia. The ferry was called "heavy" due to its large size, which could accommodate a two-horse wagon and passengers (Margrabe 1990:13). In addition to ferries, flat-bottom, wooden rafts and other cargo crafts were employed to transport grain, flour, bacon, and whiskey downstream from Brunswick to Georgetown (ibid). A covered wooden toll bridge at Brunswick spanned the

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Potomac River in 1859, but was subsequently burned down in 1861 by Confederate troops in the area. In 1893, an iron truss bridge replaced the former wooden bridge. This bridge was not replaced until 1955, when the present poured-concrete bridge was built (Margrabe 1990:13). A covered bridge at Steiner's Hill (west of Jefferson) once adorned Route 180, until it was replaced with the present concrete bridge in 1928 (Jefferson Bicentennial Book Committee 1999: 51).

C&O Canal and B&O Railroad

In 1785, George Washington and his party explored the area surrounding the Potomac River in Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia, including Knoxville and Brunswick. He prospected the creation of a canal to extend from the port in Georgetown westward along the Potomac. However, his vision was not realized until after the War of 1812, when the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company (formerly the Potomac Company) began construction of the canal (Margrabe 1990:17). The C&O Canal stretches for 184 miles along the Potomac between Washington, D.C., and Cumberland, Maryland (Margrabe 1990:13, 69). The C&O Canal was destroyed beyond repair in the flood of 1924. In addition, the canal could not compete with the more efficient B&O Railroad, running parallel to the canal; the canal was designated as a National Historical Park in 1971 and is used for recreational purposes today (ibid).

In 1914, Brunswick's rail yard was the fifth largest in the world (Wolfe 1914:12). On April 24, 1827, the B&O was incorporated for a rail line between Baltimore and the Ohio River. Eventually, the B&O rail line extended from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to Louisville, Kentucky (Margrabe 1990:48). In Brunswick, the B&O Railroad became the newest east-west trade route, relieving the excessive trade traffic on the old National Road (U.S. 40). Construction of both the C&O Canal and the B&O Railroad commenced on July 4, 1828; however, the C&O reached Point of Rocks in 1831, while the B&O reached that destination in 1832 (Margrabe 1990:47). A lawsuit ensued between the B&O and C&O over ownership of a narrow right-of-way at Point of Rocks. The court granted the right-of-way to the C&O, and the B&O was forced to bore tunnels into the cliffs at Point of Rocks and the Catoctin in order to lay additional rail line. In Brunswick, the B&O built only a tool shed and a small section gang; the major rail yards were located in Martinsburg, West Virginia (ibid). Initially, the C&O impacted Brunswick's economic growth more than the B&O, as Brunswick became a small trade center for the canal. The first railroad cars were drawn by horse until steam power became the latest technological advance in 1830 (ibid).

The presence of the B&O Railroad turned Brunswick into a boomtown in the late nineteenth century. The freight yards in Martinsburg, West Virginia, became overcrowded and, in 1890, the seven-mile freight yards were moved to Brunswick. Subsequently, the population of Brunswick grew from 300 to 3,000 people (Margrabe 1990:48). The B&O yards at Brunswick handled all passenger and freight service on the railroad's east-west main line. In December 1953, the last steam locomotive was retired from service, as electrical power was now widespread. In the 1960s, the C&O railway purchased the B&O stock and acquired control of the B&O (ibid). On June 15, 1973, the B&O and C&O were a subsidiary of the Chessie System, which lasted less than a decade. On November 1, 1980, the Chessie System merged with Seaboard Coastline Industries to form CSX Corporation, who then acquired full ownership and remains the present owner and operator of the railroad through Brunswick (ibid).

Historical Events

Throughout history, the lower Middletown Valley has been a part of war-related events. It was the scene of one of the bloodiest battles during the Civil War. The Battle of South Mountain was fought on September 14, 1862. High Knob on Catoctin Mountain was utilized as a strategic signal station during this battle. The fierce battling caused widespread damage to the valley and injury to many of its inhabitants. Middletown also experienced an influx of Union and Confederate soldiers. Several skirmishes took place in Middletown, and General Jubal Early raided the town before progressing to Frederick. Middletown's churches were used as hospitals for soldiers wounded during the Battle of South Mountain. General George McClellan set up headquarters in Middletown and he used the steeple of the Reformed Church as a lookout tower to locate the position of the Confederate Army (Wolfe 1914:10). In Brunswick

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and elsewhere, the Civil War interrupted the progress and service of the B&O Railroad; as a result, a post-war depression in the railroad business occurred (Margrabe 1990:48). During World War II, Brunswick's rail yards handled massive amounts of war materials. Brunswick became a strategic point that was heavily protected from the Germans by U.S. anti-aircraft guns, which were mounted on the hills around Brunswick (ibid).

Architecture

As an example of log architecture on an agricultural site in Frederick County, the Staley-Summers House property was investigated under several relevant thematic contexts, including log-house construction techniques, bank barns, springhouses, and agricultural landscape features.

Log Architecture

Consultation with Janet Davis, Frederick County's Historic Preservation Planner, was conducted in regards to the architectural significance evaluation of the Staley-Summers log house and ancillary ruins. According to Ms. Davis, the two-story log house features standard characteristics of Appalachian log houses built circa 1820-1840, including inverted, v-notched, square-hewn log construction and stone rubble nogging overlain by mortar (also Noble 1984:110-113; McAlester 195:34-36). McAlester notes that many early, pre-railroad log houses are commonly found in rural areas and are well-documented and thoroughly studied (1985:84-86).

Initially, the Swedes, Finns, and Germans introduced the techniques of log construction into the New World, with Germanic influences more prominent (Noble 1984:110). Examples of early log architecture and German architectural influences are represented throughout Frederick County (Poole 2002:46): Most notably, New Market and Libertytown contain many extant log cabins, but many have been re-clad in brick, wood, asphalt, and aluminum siding. Early settlers in Frederick County built their log houses and other outbuildings from the timber they collected while clearing forested land to establish fields in which to plant their first crops (*Frederick News Post*, 1976: (1)13). As settlers became established and their families grew, log houses were often expanded upward and/or outward. Additional wings were constructed of locally made brick or field stone (ibid).

At the base of the Catoctin Mountain, and elsewhere in Frederick County, typical late-eighteenth-century, one-and-a-half- and two-story, four-room log houses are documented (Lebherz et. al 2002). In general, log houses in the county functioned as the primary residence or as tenant/slave quarters (Maryland Historical Trust website). In 1728, a log cabin trading post was built by Abraham Pennington on a tract of land near Lock 30 of the C&O Canal. He was an Indian trader in Brunswick who operated the trading post and a ferry (Margrabe 1990:12). The Brunswick Region Historic Sites Inventory lists the Minnick Log House as a significant historic resource. It is located on Roy Shafer Road, northwest of Jefferson and west of Old Middletown Road (Brunswick Region Plan 1998:68). The Jefferson District contains many farmstead buildings constructed of log (Jefferson Bicentennial Book Committee:1999).

Agricultural Outbuildings and Landscape Features

The bank barn is a common barn form seen in Frederick County and throughout Maryland. The advent of German barn architecture occurred in southeastern Pennsylvania in the late seventeenth century. German settlers who migrated out of Pennsylvania built their traditional barn forms in locales as far as the Midwest and North Carolina (Noble and Cleek 1995:84, 86). The Swisser or Sweitzer barn is a type of bank barn, which is found from central southern Ontario, Canada to the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia (ibid:90). Settlers utilized the hilly topography by building barns into hillsides, which was a practical construction method to help insulate the barn (Noble 1984:25).

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There are several variations of the Sweitzer barn, but are typified by their asymmetrical gable roofline, the ridgeline being parallel to the hill slope, and are two-and-a-half stories high and three bays wide by two bays deep, with an overhanging forebay (ibid:89). The lower story is constructed of either stone or concrete and was devoted to cattle stable and stalls. The upper story is generally divided into three bays, two for grain cribs and one for a wagon drive space. Double-wagon doors are featured on the upslope side of the barn and served as the entry to the upper floor. Threshing doors are also found on the upper story, which provided the necessary ventilation for grain threshing procedures in the barn. The forebay was used to story threshed grain (Noble 1984:25-27). Examples of small, vernacular types of the Sweitzer barn are found in central Maryland between Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, and Antietam, Maryland, and further into the northwest (ibid:30).

Springhouses were built at the bottom of a slope at a springhead to channel a continuous supply of cool, fresh spring water into and around troughs at the base of the interior of the springhouse. Farm products, such as milk, and other perishables were kept cool and fresh while stored in these spring-water troughs. Most likely, repeated flooding in the area has silted over the original springhouse water channel, as a slight, narrow depression in the earth is visible from the west wall of the springhouse leading down to the stream.

Springhouses are typically constructed wholly of brick or stone for the best insulation properties and protection against mold, but frame and log examples, such as the Staley-Summers springhouse, are extant within Frederick County (Noble 1984:81). To the east of Petersville, in Jefferson, the Lewis Mill Complex contains a circa 1825 log springhouse with a random-coursed stone foundation (MHT website, NR Listings). Also in Jefferson, a white, stucco log springhouse is located on the Stoney Lea Farm in addition to other log outbuildings (Jefferson Bicentennial Book Committee: 1999). Further north in Myersville, a log springhouse is found in the foothills of South Mountain, along Little Catoctin Creek off of Easterday Road (Powell 1982). Likewise, a wood-frame springhouse is located on the northern side of the Catoctin Mountain range, outside of Thurmont off of Sabillasville Road (ibid).

Although the Staley-Summers House property retains few historic landscape features, a few small segments of woven-wire fencing that appear to date from the 1940s are present. The woven-wire fence was first manufactured in the 1880s, and quickly became the favored type among sheep raisers (Noble and Cleek 1995:177; Dreicer 1996:72-74). Wood and wire fences served the practical purpose of confining livestock in the barnyard (Dreicer 1996:50-51).

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Please see continuation sheet for full bibliography.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	119 acres		
Acreage of historical setting	146 acres		
Quadrangle name	Point of Rocks	Quadrangle scale:	1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The Staley-Summers House property consists of a heavily wooded, land-locked, 119-acre parcel of land with a log residence and two collapsed agricultural buildings that were evaluated as part of this project. Maryland State Highway Administration owns the parcel of land that contains the resources in investigation. Its parcel of land is identified as tax map number 83 and tax parcel number 32. The property is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Stephanie Foell, Senior Architectural Historian / Stacey Streett, Cultural Resources Research Assistant						
organization	A.D. Marble & Company	date	12/29/2004				
street & number	10989 Red Run Blvd., Suite 209	telephone	410-902-1421				
city or town	Owings Mills	state	MD				

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust DHCD/DHCP 100 Community Place Crownsville, MD 21032-2023 410-514-7600

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Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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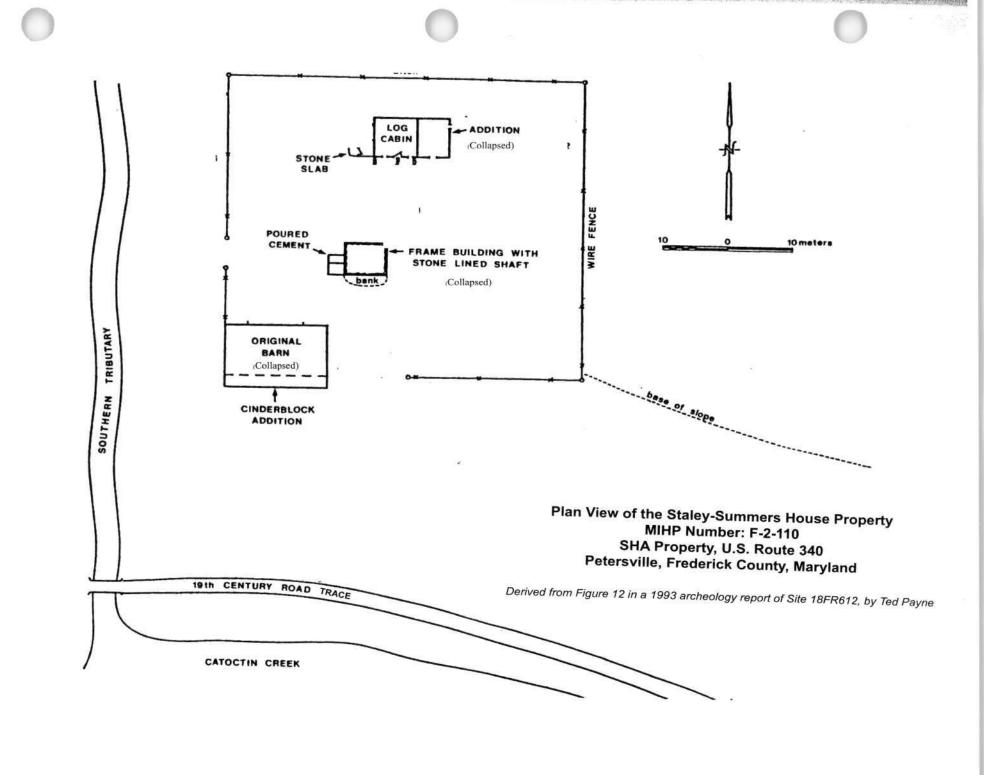
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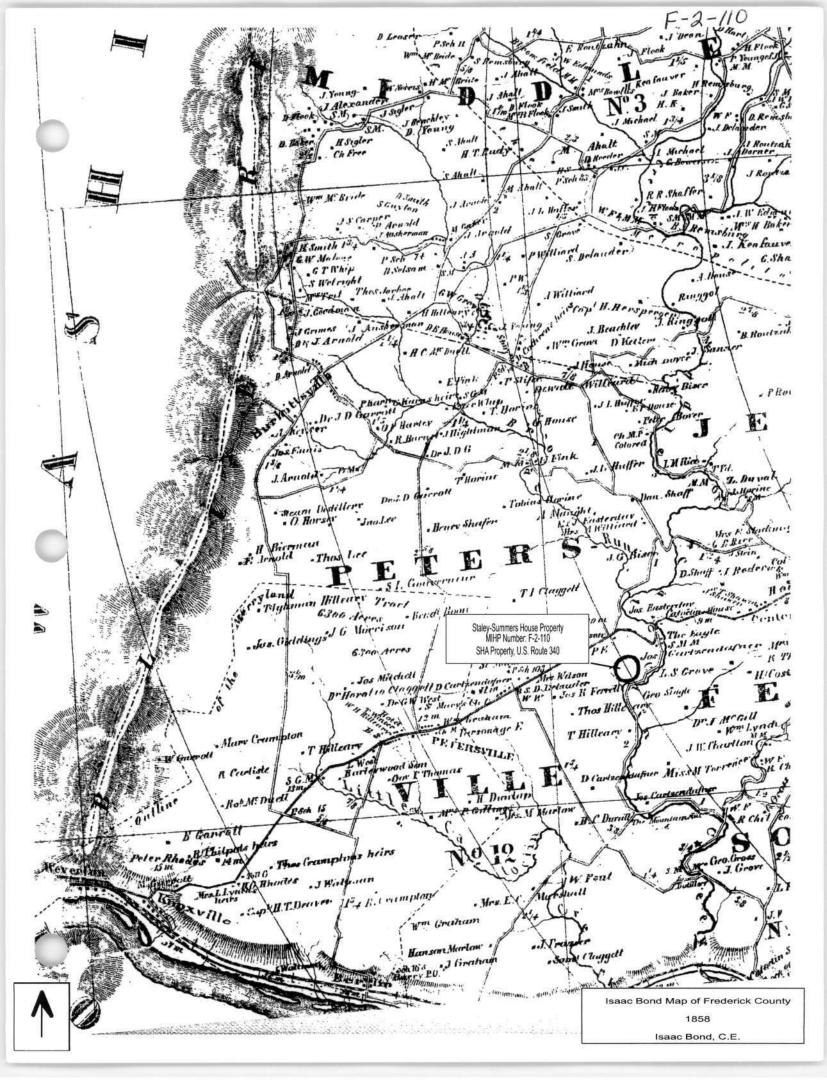
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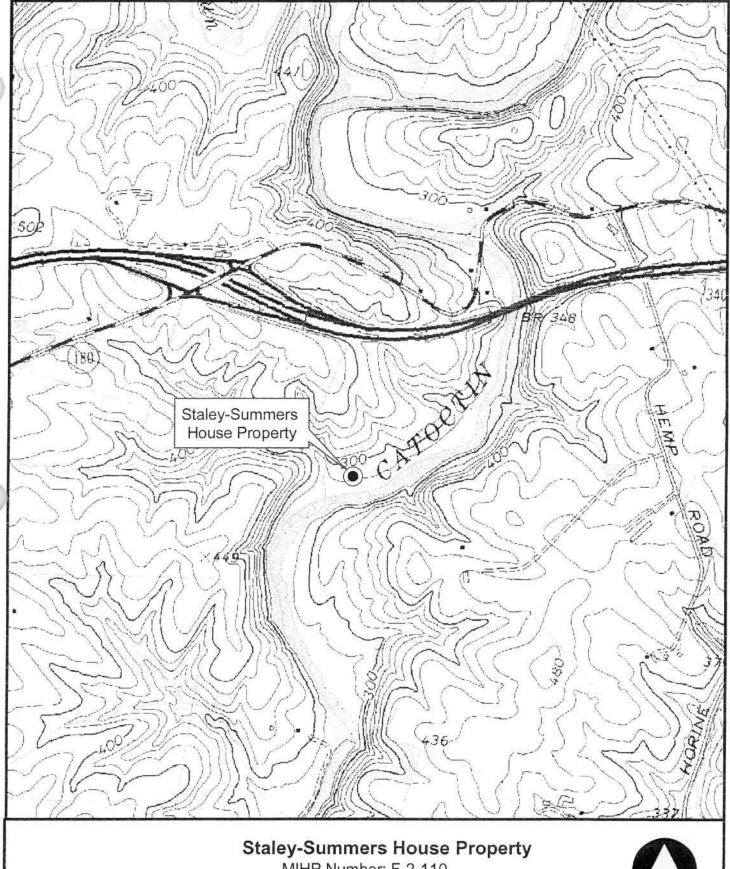
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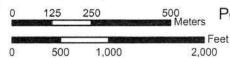




MIHP Number: F-2-110

SHA Property, U.S. Route 340

Petersville, Frederick County, Maryland



1 inch equals 1,000 feet



USGS Quadrangle: Point of Rocks, MD, 1981

Staley-Summers House Property
F-2-110
Petersville, Frederick County, MD
Photocopies of 1960 Photos, on file at SHA









Staley-Summers House Property
F-2-110
Petersville, Frederick County, MD
Photocopies of 1960 Photos, on file at SHA









1-2-110 Staley-Summers House Property Frederick County, MD S. Feell 12/2004 MD SHPO Facade and east elevation of log house 1/23



F-2-110 Staley-Summers House Property Frederick County, MD S. Foell 12/2004 MD SHIPO Facade of log house, view to the time the the north 3 2/23



F-2-110 Staley - Summers House Property Frederick County, MD S. Foell 12/2004 MD SHPO Facade and east elevation 型ではくらり ・CF15 (1925-128) of the log house 3/23



F-2-110 Staley - Summers House Property Frederick County, MD S. Foell 12/2004 MD SHPO Facade and west elevations of log house; vew to the NE 4/23



F-2-110 Staley-Summors House Property Frederick County, MD S. Foell 12/2004 MD SHPO ART-2611 Kilo. 36 almit 243 7817 -1 H D H 68 (04250) Detail of window openings on facade; view to the north 5/23



F-2-110 Stally - Summers House Property Frederick County, MD S. Fee !! 12/2004 MD SHPO 2611 <No.23 >881 291 7817 - 1 11 11 H-15 (842)@ View of rear elevation of log house facing south 6/23



F-2-110 Staley-Summers House Property Frederick County, MD S. Foell 12/2004 MD SHPO Facade and east elevation of log house, view to the NW 7/23



F-2-110 Staley-Summers House Property Frederick County MD S. Foll 12/2004 MD SHOD ART-2611 KHo.21 >035 243 7817 -1 11 U H-24 (9/42)0 east elevation of loghouse 8/23



F-2-110 Staley-Summers House Property Frederick County, MD S. Foell 12/2004 MD SHPO ART-2611 <Uo.16 >033 243 7817 +1 U U U-12 <04220 detail of facade of log house 9/23



1-2-110 Staley-Summers House Property Frederick County, MD S. Foell 12/2004 MD SHPO ART-2611 KNo.15/08/32 West elevation of log house 10/23



Staley-Summers House Property Frederick County, MD S. Feell 12/2004 ART-2611 (Un. 29) DSU 243 7817 -1 H H H 39 (04200 MDSHPD Second floor of log house; view to the

F-2-110



F-2-110 Staley Summers House Property Frederick County, MD S. Feell 12/2004 ART-2611 KNO-27 DOSE 243 7817 FI U NF2 IN KB1278 MD SHPO First floor of loghouse, view to the northeast



F-2-110 Staley-Summers House Property Frederick County, MD S. Foell 12/2004 MD SHOO BPBC SS.ONE (1682 - FMA Second floor room; New to the west

13/23



F-2-110 Staley-Summers House Proputy Frederick County, MD S. Foell 12/2004 MDSHPO Staircase from first floor, view to the east (log house) 14/23



F-2-110 Staley - Summers House Property Frederick County, MD S. Foell 12/2004 MD SHPO Fireplace; first floor; view to the west 15/23



F-2-110 Staley-Summers House Property Frederick County, MD S. Foell 12/2004 MD SHPO 회사 스타일에 가입하는 지원 전 시간 기계를 간꾸었다. 보험점 - View of bank barn foundation; New to the NW 16/23



F-2-110 Staley - Summers House Property Frederick County, MD S. Foell 12/2004 MD SHPO Remnants of bank barn foundation; 17/23



F-2-110 Staley - Summers House Property Frederick County, MD S. Foell 12/2004 WD SHOD Remnants of bank bank foundation, view to the NE 18/23



F-2-110 Staley-Summers House Property Frederick County, MD S. Foell 12/2004 MD SHPO View of collapsed Springhouse, 19/23



F-2-110 Staley-Summers House Property Frederick County, MD S. Foell 12/2004 MD SHPO GERGARI PORE ERRE View of collapsed springhouse in foreground and log house in background, view to the north 20/23



F-2-110 Staley-Summers House Property Fredericke County, MD S. Foell 12/2004 MD SHOO View of property, facing west 21/23



F-2-110 Staley-Summers House Property Frederick County, MD S. Foell 12/2004 MD SHOO View of property, induding Catochin Creek; view to the SW 22/23



F-2-110 Staley-Summers House Property Frederick County, MD S. Foell 12/2004 MD SHPO Overnow of property with the time of the bank barn foundation in foreground and log house in background, view to the NE 23/23